(c) and (d) Reserve Bank of India have reported that there are no orders|instructions to commercial banks, including State Bank of India, not to sanction|release housing loans to individuals.

Environmental Clearance for Establishing of Hotels in Madhya Pradesh

1233. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received proposals for establishing hotels|resorts in various parts of the country during the last two years;

(b) if so, how many hotel projects have been given clearance from the Environmental point of view by Government;

(c) how many such hotel projects were from the State of Madhya Pradesh and out of them how many have been given clearance by Government; and

(d) by when the rest of the projects are likely to be cleared by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Eighteen projects from Goa have been granted approval in the last two years. No hotel project from Madhya Pradesh has been referred for environmental consideration so far.

(d) No hotel project is pending.

Air and noise pollution near the Major Hospitals in Delhi

1234. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the major hospitals, viz., Safdarjang, A.I.I.M.S., Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia, Lok Nayak Jayaprakash Narayan, Sucheta Kripalani and Kalawati Saran in the capital are situated near busy roads which causes air and noise pollution at the maximum level in these hospitals; and

(b) if so, what remedial action Government propose to take in this regards?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) According to the air quality survey, the air pollution levels in Delhi are by and large within the prescribed limits. While the levels of sulphur dioxide and oxides of nitrogen are well within the limits, the levels of suspended particulate matter are on the higher side.

According to the ambient noise level survey, the ambient noise levels in the hospital area range between 63 and 69 decibels (A scale) against the prescribed standards of 50. The hospital are located in busy inter-sections with high traffic density.

(b) The remedial action taken and proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard, include:—

(1) The Ministry of Surface Transport have advised the various State Transport Directorates including the Directorate of Transport, Delhi Administration, to enforce the gross emission standards notified under the Motor Vehicles Rules 1989.

(2) The Directorate of Transport, Delhi Administration have launched an education and awareness camping.

(3) Checking facilities have been provided to assess pollution from vehicles as well as facilities for rectification by tuning of the engine.

(4) Ambient air quality standards have been notified.

(5) Ambient air quality standards in respect of noise for different areas have been prescribed. Noise limits have also been prescribed for automobiles domestic appliances and con-

struction equipment to be adopted at the manufacturing stage. Noise limits for automobiles have to be met by 1992, while those for appliances have to be met by 1993.

(6) 28 areas around hospitals, 19 areas around educational institutions and 23 areas around residential offices have been declared as silence zones. Restrictions placed on blowing of horns in these silence zones outside hospitals and schools are being enforced by the Delhi Traffic Police. Prosecutions have been launched for violating the norms in silence zones.

India's Foreign Trade

1235. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRI KAPIL VERMA:
DR. RUDRA PRATAP SINGH:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what was the position of India's Foreign trade in June, 1991 according to the external trade figures compiled by the Reserve Bank of India and the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence;

(b) what was the trend in April and May, 1991; and

(c) by when the process of correction of the imbalance in the foreign trade is likely to commence?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) The Reserve Bank of India as on date has not compiled the trade figures for June, 1991. According to provisional figures of foreign trade compiled by DGCI&S, Calcutta, India's exports amounted to Rs. 2573 crores during the month of June, 1991 as compared to Rs. 2314 crores during June, 1990, thereby showing an increase of 11.2 per cent. India's imports amounted to Rs. 3423 crores during June, 1991 as compared to Rs. 2926 crores during June, 1990 thereby showing an increase of 17 per cent. The trade deficit increased from Rs. 612 crores in June, 1990 to Rs. 850 crores in June, 1991.

(b) According to DGCI&S data, India's exports amounted to Rs. 2952 crores in April 1991 as compared to Rs. 2461 crores in April, 1990, registering an increase of 20 per cent. India's imports amounted to Rs. 2850 crores in April 1991 as compared to Rs. 3225 crores in April '90 thereby registering a decline of 11.6 per cent. The balance of trade shows a surplus of Rs. 102 crores in April 1991, as compared to a trade deficit of Rs. 765 crores in April 1990. In May 1991. India's export amounted to Rs. 2654 crores as compared to Rs.2620 crores in May, 1990, thereby registering an increase of 1.3 per cent. India's imports at Rs. 2990 crores registered a decline of 0.1 per cent as compared to Rs. 2992 crores in May, 1990. The trade deficit at Rs. 336 crores in May, 1991 registered a decline of 9.7 per cent as compared to Rs. 372 crores in May, 1990.

(c) The Government announced a package of trade reforms in July and August, 1991 which are aimed at strengthening export incentives and optimising the import compression. According to the provisional data for April-June, 1991, the trade deficit registered a decline from Rs. 1876 crores in April-June, 1990 to Rs. 1502 crores in April-June, 1991.

Concept of service area approach

1236. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the concept of Service Area Approach in rural areas has become redundent; and

(b) if so, what is the number of villages that has been surveyed by Nationalised Banks as per Reserve Bank of India guidelines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b) The concept of Service Area Approach